

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A stay ~~including~~ comprising a first arm [(1)], a second arm [(2)] whose basal end part is turnably connected to a leading end part of said first arm [(1)] between a development position and a folded position, and a lock means [(4)] disposed between said first arm [(1)] and said second arm [(2)], said lock means [(4)] being switched between a locked state where said second arm [(2)] can non-turnably be locked in said development position and a released state where said second arm [(2)] is allowed to turn from said development position toward said folded position, wherein:
said stay further includes a retaining means [(5)] for retaining said lock means [(4)] in said released state when said second arm [(2)] is located in said development position.
2. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 1, wherein said lock means [(4)] includes a lock member [(41)] movably disposed at said second arm [(2)] within a predetermined movable range and a lock biasing means [(45)] for biasing said lock member, when said lock member [(41)] is moved to a predetermined locked position within said movable range with said second arm [(2)] located in said development position, said lock member [(41)] is engaged with said first arm [(1)] to prohibit said second arm [(2)] from turning from said development position toward said folded position and when said lock member [(41)] is moved away from said locked position by a predetermined releasing distance or more with said second arm [(2)] located in said development position, said lock member [(41)] is disengaged from said first arm [(1)] to allow said second arm [(2)] to turn from said development position toward said folded position, said lock biasing means [(45)] biasing said lock member [(41)] toward said locked position, so that the engaging state of said lock member [(41)] with said first arm [(1)] can be maintained.
3. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 2, wherein said retaining means [(5)] is a movement prohibiting means [(5)] disposed between selected one of said first and second arms [(1)], [(2)] and said lock member [(41)] and adapted to prohibit said lock member

[[41]] from moving toward said locked position beyond a predetermined release retaining position which is away by more than said releasing distance from said locked position.

4. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 3, wherein said movement prohibiting means [(5)] is disposed between said first arm [(1)] and said lock member [(41)], said movement prohibiting means [(5)] includes a displacement member [(52)] disposed at said lock member [(41)] such that said displacement member [(52)] can displace between a first position and a second position, a displacement biasing means [(53)] for biasing said displacement member [(52)] from said first position toward said second position, a first abutment part [(47)] disposed at said first arm [(1)], said first abutment part [(47)] being abutted with said displacement member [(52)] so that said displacement member [(52)] is brought into said first position when said second arm [(2)] is located at said development position and said lock member [(41)] is located at said locked position and allowing said displacement member [(52)] to move to said second position when said lock member [(41)] is moved beyond said release retaining position, a second abutment part [(43)] disposed at said lock member [(41)] and abutted with said displacement member [(52)] so that said displacement member [(52)] is brought into said second position against the biasing force of said displacement biasing means [(53)], and a third abutment part [(48)] disposed at said first arm [(1)] and abutted with said displacement member [(52)] which is located at said second position, thereby preventing said lock member [(41)] from moving from said release retaining position toward said locked position.
5. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 4, wherein said first arm [(1)] is provided with an engagement recess [(46)] formed therein and partly open, and said first arm [(1)] is provided with an engagement part [(43)] formed thereon, said engagement part [(43)] being brought into engagement with said engagement recess [(46)] through an opening part of said engagement recess [(46)] thereby prohibiting said second arm [(2)] from turning toward said folded position from said development position when said second arm [(2)] is located at said development position and said lock member [(41)] is moved from said release retaining position to said locked position.
6. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 5, wherein said first abutment part [(47)] is formed as an inclination surface [(47)] which is inclined in such a manner as to approach

the opening part of said engagement recess [(46)] from said locked position toward said release retaining position, and said third abutment part [(48)] is formed as a leading end part of said inclination surface [(47)] which is intersected with an end part on the opening side of one side surface [(46b)] of said engagement recess [(46)].

7. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 6, wherein said displacement member [(52)] is turnably disposed at said lock member [(41)], said engagement part [(43)] is also used as said second abutment part, said displacement member [(52)] is abutted with a rear end part, which is away from said engagement recess [(46)], of said inclination surface [(47)], thereby causing said displacement member [(52)] to be located at said first position when said second arm [(2)] is located at said development position and said lock member [(41)] is located at said locked position, said displacement member [(52)] is slid on said inclination surface [(47)] and turned toward said second position as said lock member [(41)] is moved from said lock position toward said released position, and said displacement member [(52)] is moved beyond said inclination surface [(47)] and abutted with said engagement part [(43)] thereby being located at said second position when said lock member [(41)] reaches said release retaining position.
8. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 7, wherein when said second arm [(2)] is turned from said folded position toward said development position with said lock member [(41)] located in a moving limit position toward said first arm [(1)] within said predetermined movable range, said engagement part [(43)] is brought into abutment with said inclination surface [(47)], thereby said lock member [(41)] is moved toward said release retaining position in accordance with turning movement of said second arm [(2)] against the biasing force of said lock biasing means [(45)], and when said second arm [(2)] reaches said development position, said lock member [(41)] is moved to said locked position by said lock biasing means [(45)], thereby said engagement part [(43)] is inserted into said engagement recess [(46)] through said opening part of said engagement recess [(46)].
9. (Currently Amended) A stay according to claim 8, wherein when said lock member [(41)] is moved to said locked position by said lock biasing means [(45)], said displacement

member [(52)] is moved by said inclination surface [(47)] from said second position to said first position against the biasing force of said displacement biasing means [(53)].